

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- Each coastal border guard unit had an observation tower and about 15 border guards equipped with horses, police dogs, and one truck. These units were usually stationed in large farmhouses surrounded by high, barbed wire fences. No searchlights were seen on any of the observation towers along the coast, and it was believed that there were no border guards on these towers at night. Observation towers built among the pines on the dunes were no higher than the treetops, so that their outline could not be seen from the sea. The platform of one tower was open only toward the sea. Telephone cables, laid in the open between the trees, connected the border guard stations. 25X1
- Patrols from these border guard stations were made up of two-man teams. Each border guard was equipped with a submachine gun; none were ever seen with heavier arms, such as light or heavy machine guns. Military border guard units were usually replaced every three months, to prevent them from becoming too friendly with the local populace. However, the commanding officers of these units remained at their posts for longer periods. For example, one lieutenant had been in his post for 18 months.
- Border guards were generally more intelligent than other members of the armed forces. the more alert draftees were selected for service in the border troops. All border guards were believed to be Communist Party members or "Chekists". 25X1
- A 200-man unit of the Naval Border Guard was located south of Lepaya, about one kilometer north of Dzintarnieki (N 56-28, E 21-01), between the sea and the Lepaya-Bernati highway. Members of this unit wore regular navy uniforms but with a green border on the shoulder straps and a narrow green stripe around the top edge of the cap. They were stationed in four or five two-story residential buildings built on the dunes in 1940.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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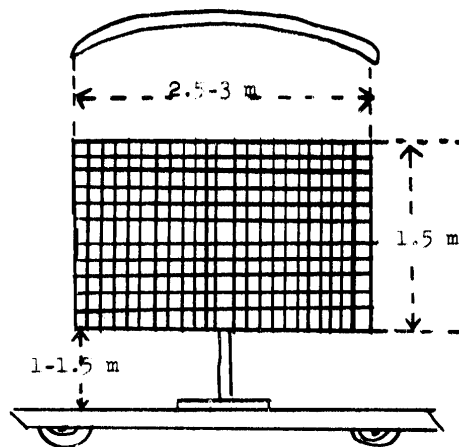
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5. A large radar installation, clearly visible from the highway, was located about 200 meters from the highway toward Lepaya Lake, opposite the end of the road on the other side of the Lepaya-Berrati Highway. This installation was mounted on a special four-wheel trailer slightly longer than a regular truck chassis (see sketch below). The radar antenna was in the form of a folded rectangle about 2.5 to three meters long, about 1.5 meters high, and about one to 1.5 meters above the trailer. It consisted of two wire-mesh sheets which moved past each other horizontally in pendulum fashion and reaching their extreme positions about eight to ten times a minute. On one occasion, the movement was about twice as fast as usual, with the antenna tilted back in a slanting position instead of turning around a vertical axis. A truck with a high, closed cab was located next to the trailer with the radar antenna. Half the bed of a third truck at the location was taken up by a radar structure resembling a small hut. This installation was set up early in 1950 between the highway and the sea, but, in April 1950, it was moved to the location between the highway and the lake. The two trucks and the trailer were guarded by one soldier in an infantry uniform. No other persons were seen in the vicinity.
6. The larger border guard units north of Lepaya were said to be in Pavilosta (N 56-53, E 21-10) and Saka (N 56-55, E 21-15) (square L-2). There was a border guard unit in Labraga (N 56-58, E 21-21) (square M-3).
7. The canal of the old fortifications entered the sea about four kilometers north of the Northern Mole. The water was very shallow, making it impossible to enter the canal by boat from the sea. Water from the canal flowed into the sea in April or beginning of May, and in the fall during the rainy period. This caused the mouth of the canal to overrun the harrowed six-meter wide zone on the beach.
8. An observation tower with an open platform without a roof was located on the north side of the canal, between the highway leading from the naval port to Skëde (N 56-38, E 21-03) and the sea. [redacted] tanks in the forest, south of the canal mouth, and believed, on the basis of statements made by other people and from the noise of artillery, that heavy coast artillery was located in this forest between the road and the sea. The road which runs along the sea from Skëde to Lepaya had no road control points and was not closed to general traffic. The road crosses the canal, turns southeast, and runs parallel to the old fortifications canal.

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Radar near the Dzintarnieki Farmhouse



(not to scale)

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